

CLAIMS

1. A serine protease or its partial peptide comprising an amino acid sequence identical to serine protease indicated in SEQ ID NO: 6, an amino acid sequence in which a portion of the identical amino acid sequence is deleted or substituted, or an amino acid sequence in which at least one amino acid is added to the identical amino acid sequence or an amino acid sequence in which a portion of the identical amino acid sequence is deleted or substituted.

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2. A serine protease domain or its partial peptide comprising an amino acid sequence identical to a serine protease domain comprising the amino acid sequence from amino acid No. 578 to 822 indicated in SEQ ID NO: 6, an amino acid sequence in which a portion of the identical sequence is deleted or substituted, or an amino acid sequence in which at least one acid is added to the identical amino acid sequence or an amino acid sequence in which a portion of the identical amino acid sequence is deleted or substituted.

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3. A kringle domain or its partial peptide comprising an amino acid sequence identical to a kringle domain comprising the amino acid sequence from amino acid No. 40 to 112 indicated in SEQ ID NO: 6, an amino acid sequence in which a portion of the identical sequence is deleted or substituted, or an amino acid sequence in which at least one amino acid is added to the identical amino acid sequence or an amino acid sequence in which a portion of the identical amino acid sequence is deleted or substituted.

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4. A scavenger receptor cysteine-rich (SRCR) domain or its partial peptide comprising an amino acid sequence identical to an SRCR domain comprising the amino acid sequence from amino acid No. 117 to 217, from amino acid No. 227 to 327, from amino acid No. 334 to 433, or from amino acid No. 447 to 547 indicated in SEQ ID NO: 6, an amino acid sequence in which a portion of the

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identical sequence is deleted or substituted, or an amino acid sequence in which at least one amino acid is added to the identical amino acid sequence or an amino acid sequence in which a portion of the identical amino acid sequence is deleted or substituted.

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5. DNA which codes for the serine protease, domain or their partial peptides as claimed <sup>Claim 1</sup> in any one of the above-mentioned claims 1 to 4.

*Surf*

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6. DNA which codes for a peptide having serine protease, domain or their partial peptide activity, and is hybridizable with DNA that codes for the serine protease, domain or their partial peptides as claimed <sup>Claim 1</sup> in any one of the above-mentioned claims 1 to 4 under stringent conditions.

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7. An expression vector containing the DNA as claimed in claims 5 or 6.

*Mark C17*

*Sub F21*

8. A host transformed by the expression vector as claimed in claim 7.

*Sub D2*

9. A process for preparing serine protease, domain or their partial peptides comprising culturing or breeding a host as claimed in claim 8, and recovering serine protease, domain or their partial peptides.

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10. An antibody whose antigen is the serine protease, domain or their partial peptides as claimed <sup>Claim 1</sup> in any one of claims 1 to 4.

11. A process for screening physiologically active substances that uses the serine protease, domain or their partial peptides as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, or the DNA as claimed in claims 5 or 6.

*Mark A2*

*Add A37*

*Add 4*

*Add F87*